

Atty. Dkt. No. 016907-1182

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2622

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masatsugu HIRAYAMA
Title: CORRECTION TABLE FORMING METHOD AND IMAGE
FORMING APPARATUS
Appl. No.: 09/722,700 ✓
Filing Date: 11/28/2000 ✓
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

MAILED

MAR 25 2003

Technology Center 2600

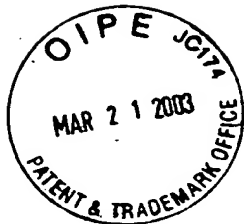
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.



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TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b), Technology Center 2600 before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign office action.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Documents A2-A4 were cited by the examiner in Applicant's corresponding Japanese application. According to an English translation of the Japanese Patent Office office action, based on documents A2-A4, storing a plurality of different correction tables or storing a certain correction table as a reference and the others as differences, in an image processor, is a matter of design that a person skilled in the art could arbitrarily have selected.

As noted, the characterizations of the Japanese Patent Office noted above are based on an English translation obtained by Applicant's representative. The disclosure of these characterizations should not be construed as an admission of or agreement to the opinions expressed in the Japanese Office Action.

Documents A1 and A4 claim priority based on the same first-filed application.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR § 1.98 and MPEP § 609). English language abstracts are provided herewith.

STATEMENT

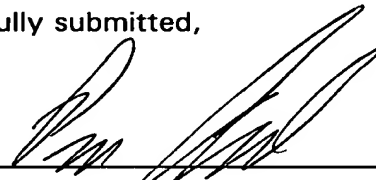
The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to filing of this Statement.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By


Pavan K. Agarwal
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Date March 21, 2003

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